#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): ASANO et al.

Atty. Dkt.: 01-592

Serial No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit:

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Examiner:

Title: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND

METHOD OF MANUFACTURING

THE SAME

Date: March 11, 2004

Commissioner for Patents Arlington, VA 22202

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 is/are submitted for consideration by the Examiner without any admission that it/they constitute(s) statutory prior art, or without any admission that it/they contain(s) subject matter that anticipates the invention or renders the invention obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached PTO Form-1449 and to return a copy of same to the undersigned attorney as proof that the listed reference(s) has/have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

David G. Posz Reg. No. 37,701

Posz & Bethards, PLC 11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 10 Reston, VA 20190 (703)707-9110 (phone) Customer No. 23400

#### \* PATENT APPLICATION

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|---------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| FORM PTO-1449 | ATTY. DKT<br>NO. | 01-592 SER. NO. |              |  |
|               | APPLICANT        | ASANO et al.    |              |  |
|               | FILING DATE      | March 11, 2004  | GROUP        |  |

## REFERENCE DESIGNATION

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER  | DATE          | NAME          | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS |
|---------------------|---|---------------|---------------|-------|--------------|
|                     | US 2002/020879 A1<br>(Corresponding to JP-A-2002-<br>124639 which is discussed on<br>page 2 of the spec.) | Feb. 21, 2002 | Shiiki et al. |       |              |
|                     | ·   |               |               |       |              |
|                     |   |               |               |       |              |
|                     |   |               |               |       |              |

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

TRANSLATION

| DOCUMENT NUMBER      | DATE     | COUNTRY | NAME | CLASS | SUB   | YES | Ņ | 10               |
|----------------------|----------|---------|------|-------|-------|-----|---|------------------|
| <br>DOCUMENT NOMBER  | DATE     | COUNTRI | NAME |       | CLASS | YES |   | Eng.<br>Abstract |
| <br>JP-A-2001-118844 | 4/27/01  | JAPAN   |      |       |       |     |   | X                |
| JP-A-2002-368100     | 12/20/02 | JAPAN   |      |       |       |     |   | Х                |
|                      |          |         |      |       |       |     |   |                  |
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<sup>\*</sup> Full English text is available in machine-translated form in JPO (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

| EXAMINER |  | DATE CONSIDERED |  |
|----------|--|-----------------|--|

Rev. 10/94 (Form 3.05)